

REMARKS

Claims 1-14 are pending in the present application. With entry of this Amendment, Applicant amends claims 1, 8, 11 and 13, cancels claims 7 and 10 and adds new claim 15. Reexamination and reconsideration are respectfully requested.

The Examiner rejected claims 1-12 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kikinis (US 5746602) in view of Gabai et al. (US 5752880). The Examiner rejected claims 13 and 14 under § 103 as being unpatentable over Kikinis in view of Hampton et al. (US 6149490). The rejections are respectfully traversed.

Conventional electronic toys are designed to make motions and produce sounds based on pre-stored programs. Due to the use of pre-stored programs, the toys quickly become uninteresting to the user. One embodiment of the present invention is directed to an electronic toy that has an input interface that receives control information from outside the toy, thereby providing a continually interesting toy for the user. The received control information can include a program for causing the toy to perform a predetermined operation. The toy can selectively read out the program in accordance with a type of external stimulus detected by a sensor located on the toy. The toy may also generate an accumulative empirical value based on the signal generated by the sensor to control the manner in which the control information is read out (see, e.g., specification at page 27, lines 16-21 and Fig. 5).

Applicant has amended claim 1 by incorporating the recitations of claims 7 and 10 and canceling claims 7 and 10. Specifically, claim 1 recites an electronic toy “wherein said control information received from outside said electronic toy and stored in said memory includes a program for causing said electronic toy to perform a predetermined operation, and wherein the program stored in said memory is selectively read out from said memory in accordance with a type of external stimulus detected by said sensor, and wherein said processor is further adapted to generate an accumulative empirical value on the basis of the external stimulus detection signal generated by said sensor and read out control information from said memory in accordance with the empirical value.”

In contrast, Kikinis does not disclose the above recitations. Kikinis is directed to an interactive doll system comprising a doll 13 and a PC 15. As explained in Col. 16, lines 62-64, the doll 13 is a computer peripheral. The doll receives a data stream from the PC to perform certain operations as further explained in Col. 8, lines 8-20. Kikinis does not disclose that a program is stored in the memory of the doll, that the program is selected in accordance with a type of a sensor-detected external stimulus and that an accumulative empirical value is generated by the doll based on a signal generated by a sensor on the doll.

Gabai is merely directed to wireless computer controlled system. It does not disclose, for example, that a program is stored in an internal memory of the toy and that an accumulative empirical value is generated in the memory of the toy based on a signal generated by a sensor on the toy. Hampton is merely directed to a toy having body parts that are controlled and coordinated in response to predetermined sensory inputs detected by various sensors. Control information is read out from the internal memory of the toy in accordance with a program pre-stored in the doll and in response to signal received from an input device (see, e.g., Col. 24, line 25 to Col. 26, line 3). There is no disclosure of control information, including a program, received from outside, where the stored program is selectively read out in accordance with a type of sensor-detected stimulus, that an accumulative empirical value is generated in the memory of the doll based on a signal generated by a sensor on the doll and that control information is read out in accordance with the empirical value.

Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits that claim 1 is not anticipated by or obvious in view of the cited references, either alone or in combination.

Applicant has amended claims 8 and 11 to depend from claim 1 and has added claim 15 to depend from claim 3. For the reasons set forth above, Applicant respectfully submits that claims 2-6, 8, 9, 11 and 12-15 are not anticipated by or obvious in view of the cited references.

Applicant has amended claim 13 in a manner similar to claim 1. Applicant respectfully submits that claim 13 and its dependent claim, claim 14, are likewise not anticipated by or obvious in view of the cited references.

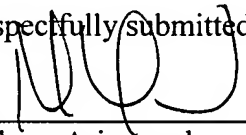
In view of the above, each of the presently pending claims in this application is believed to be in immediate condition for allowance. According, the Examiner is respectfully requested to pass this application to issue.

If, for any reason, the Examiner finds the application other than in condition for allowance, Applicant requests that the Examiner contact the undersigned attorney at the Los Angeles telephone number (213) 892-5630 to discuss any steps necessary to place the application in condition for allowance.

In the unlikely event that the transmittal letter is separated from this document and the Patent Office determines that an extension and/or other relief is required, Applicant petitions for any required relief including extensions of time and authorizes the Commissioner to charge the cost of such petitions and/or other fees due in connection with the filing of this document to **Deposit Account No. 03-1952** referencing docket no. 393032029100.

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Respectfully submitted,

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